

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-4 (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) A method for producing an antibody to the N-terminal portion of (1-84) PTH useful in the determination of intact PTH 1-84 levels in a biological sample ~~and having minimal reactivity to PTH 7-84~~, the method comprising the steps:

a) administering a first peptide antigen to a host animal to induce antibody production against said first peptide antigen in said host animal, said first peptide antigen being selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO. 3, SEQ ID NO. 4, SEQ ID NO. 5, SEQ ID NO. 6, (1-34) PTH and (1-84) PTH;

b) monitoring antibody titer produced by said administration of said at least one antigen to said host animal;

c) extracting antisera produced in said host animal by said administration of said at least one peptide antigen; and

d) isolating and selecting at least one antibody from said antisera extracted in step c) by affinity chromatography utilizing a second peptide antigen selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO. 3, SEQ ID NO. 4, SEQ ID NO. 5, and SEQ ID NO. 6.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 5 wherein in step a), said host animal is selected from the group consisting of ~~mice and rabbits~~ a mouse and a rabbit.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 5 wherein in step a), said host animal comprises at least one goat.

9. (Original) The antibody produced by the method of Claim 5.

10. (Currently Amended) The antibody of Claim 9 wherein said antibody is further processed to include ~~includes~~ a label covalently attached thereto, said label being selected from the group consisting of a radioactive tracer, a fluorescent tracer, an enzymatic tracer and a dye tracer ~~tracers~~.

11.-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 5 wherein in step a), said (1-34) PTH is ~~selected~~ derived from a ~~group of species~~ selected from the group consisting of ~~humans, rats, mice, bovines, dogs and pigs~~ a human, a rat, a mouse, a bovine, a dog, and a pig.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 5 wherein in step a), said first peptide antigen has a carrier protein coupled therewith.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 5 wherein in step a), said (1-84) PTH is ~~selected from a the group of species~~ selected from the group consisting of ~~humans, rats, mice, bovines, dogs and pigs~~ a human, a rat, a mouse, a bovine, a dog and a pig.

18.-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) ~~Test kits~~ A test kit and analytical procedures used for the determination of bioactive intact PTH utilizing the antibody produced by the method of Claim 5.